OUR MISSION STATEMENT

We The people of the Whiting/Robertsdale Cluster, are a Catholic Faith Community, ethnically rich, culturally diverse, and one in Faith. Inspired by the unity of The Holy Trinity, we endeavor to share our Faith as disciples of Jesus.



SUNDAY, SPTEMBER 7, 2025 TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Whiting/Robertsdale Faith
Community St. John the Baptist &
St. Adalbert

1849 Lincoln Ave. Whiting, IN 46394

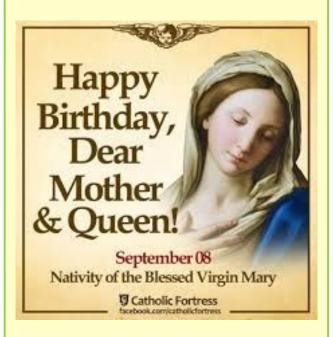
Sacraments:

Please Call St. John Church Office: 219-659-0023

Rectory new Hours

Monday 8am-3:30pm Tues-Fri 8am-4:00pm Lunch hours 12pm-1pm

Confessions after 7:00 a.m. Mass and Saturdays 3:00–3:30 p.m. in the SJB Centennial Room, also by appointment.





The 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today's 1st reading from The Book of Wisdom helps us reflect on our earthly possessions, which continually vie for our attention, often weighing us down with anxiety.

The advice, given and attributed to King Solomon, is to look to God, the author of WISDOM, and seek that wisdom which the Holy Spirit imparts. Wisdom enables us to make grace-filled choices which lead to eternal life.

In the Gospel Jesus explains the cost of *discipleship*. Jesus' disciple is one who gives absolute attention and acceptance to the Master by following his way, which ultimately is the Way of the Cross!

This Monday, September 8th the Church celebrates the **Virgin Mary's birthday**. She is often called the 1st disciple who understood the cost of discipleship. She gave up everything to fully accept Jesus into her life. She shows us the way to carry our crosses, trusting that *JESUS is THE WAY, THE TRUTH and THE LIFE* for all of us struggling disciples.

- How will I prepare my heart to listen to each week's Scripture Readings?
- What steps will I take this week to grow as a disciple of Jesus?

M.S.

"Mary let herself be guided by the Holy Spirit on a journey of faith towards a destiny of service and fruitfulness. Today we look to her and ask her to help us proclaim the message of salvation to all, enabling new disciples to become evangelizers." (from The Joy of the Gospel #287)

"Mary, help of Christians, pray for us."

WORSHIP AND SPIRITUALITY

IN LOVING MEMORY

September 7: Sunday: TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

September 8: Monday: The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

7:00 a.m. †Cornell & Rosemarie Wirbicki by Russ & Betty Wirbicki

September 13: Saturday: St. John Chrysostom Bishop & Doctor of

September 14: Sunday: THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

10:30 a.m. WHITING/ROBERTSDALE FAITH COMMUNITY

September 12: Friday: THE MOST HOLY NAME OF MARY

8:30 a.m. †Paul Banik by Marsha, Stacey & Owen

8:00a.m. WHITING/ROBERTSDALE FAITH COMMUNITY 10:30a.m. †James Duha by Whitefoot family

7:00 a.m. †Joseph & Anna Markovich by son & John's kids

7:00a.m. †Nick & Libby Niksic by nephew Richard September 9: Tuesday: St. Peter Claver, Priest

7:00a.m. †Ben Likens by Ann Gregorovich

8:00 a.m. †Paul J. Miskus by family

September 10: Wednesday:

September 11: Thursday:

7:00a.m. For Mary

MAIN RECTORY NUMBER.....(219) 659-0023
RECTORY FAX NUMBER.....(219) 473-7551
E-Mail: churchparishoffice@stjohnbap.org

WEBSITE: www.stjohnbap.org

RECTORY STAFF

PASTOR	Rev. Mark Peres, C.PP.S. Ext. 116
DEACONS	Leo Barron & Joseph Manchak
FAITH ENRICHMENT/Adult	Margaret Saliga (219) 659-4138
FAITH & SACRAMENTAL FORMATION/YOUTH MINISTRY	

Jamie Sandona Ext. 106

MARRIAGE PREPARATION.......(219) 659-0023

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ST. VINCENT DE PAUL......(219) 659-1073

ST. JOHN SCHOOL

Main Number	(219) 659-3042
PRINCIPAL	Michelle Ondas Ext. 304
SCHOOL SECRETARY	Ashley Roldan Ext. 301

BULLETIN ARTICLES: ealvarez@stjohnbap.org

Articles deadline: Thursdays @10:00 a.m.

WEBSITE INFORMATION: jsandona@stjohnbap.org

~ SACRIFICIAL GIVING ~ August 31, 2025

St. John: \$8,326.82 St. Adalbert: \$1,220.00 (August 24, 202

\$1,001.52)

Online Giving: \$2,854.50

St. Adalbert Church Roof Fund

Cost is \$157,144.50

Collected as of June 23, 2025 is \$98,640.11

† REST IN PEACE

SA 4:30 p.m. †Bernacky Family by family

Anthony P. "Tony" Lissy



the Church

CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL CAMPAIGN FOR 2024 GOAL PLEDGES PAID Balance Due SA \$ 9,872.30 \$4,852.00 \$4,352.00 \$5,520.00 SJB \$44,488.47 \$24,721.00 \$23,786.00 \$20,702.47



Saturday, September 13th ~ St. Adalbert: 4:30 p.m.

Altar Servers: Valentina Lector: L. Wright

Eucharistic M: R. Ciesla, J. Ballman, G. Cusson

Sunday, September 14th., 2025 ~ St. John: 8:00 a.m. Altar Servers: Andrew, Julian, Adriana Lector: A. Bucher Eucharistic M: T. Wargo, S. Adam, T. Adam, K. Behrens,

B. Behrens, J. Venegas

10:30 a.m.

Altar Servers: Jose, Mili, Guiliana Lector: T. Markovich Eucharistic M: D. Urbanik, B. Coleman, S. Tabernacki, B. Jerzyk,

O. Matushek, J. Coleman, A. Alcala

YOU ARE INVITED

COME, on Tuesday, September 9th, join the conversation as we consider the many ways in which the gospel impacts our lives with the 2025 Tuesday Evening Bible Study Group, 6:30-8:00 p.m. at the St. John Founders Room (lower level of the school, enter 119th St). Using the Formed platform, Matthew series, we will discuss all 28 chapters. Thus, we are preparing ourselves to better appreciate the featured Gospel of the 2025-2026 Year A.

All are welcome to join the group at any time and attend as able. Please bring your Bible and an open heart, ready to listen to God's Holy Word and receive its message into your life.

Questions or to order a Bible, phone Margaret Saliga, facilitator, 219-659-4138.

MASS INTENTION BOOK FOR 2026 OPENS OCTOBER 1, 2025.



OCIA- THE ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION INTO THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Do you know someone, or perhaps it is you, who is interested in learning more about the Catholic Church

and receiving the Sacraments? If needing all the sacraments from Baptism to Confirmation, or maybe just Communion or Confirmation. The OCIA program is for them. There is a flyer on the table near the church doors. Please take one and share it with people who might be interested.

The information meeting will be held on September 3rd in the Founders Room of the School, enter Door A. For more information, please call the rectory.



FAMILY MASS DIRECTOR is looking for additional Musicians and Vocalists. If interested in adding to this worship ministry please call the rectory for the contact number. Family Mass is held the 2nd Sunday of the month beginning in **September at 10:30** am

As we enter into the final weeks before school begins for many children, I wanted to share some upcoming activities.

WEEKLY SCHOOL MASS DAY has been moved to **Fridays at 8:30 am.** The first mass will be held on **August 29**th. This mass is open to anyone who would like to attend. We ask that you sit on the sides or in the back of the church. We look forward to worshiping with you this year.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN EVENTS:

We are so excited to announce the dates of our Fundraising Events this year.

September 14th- Parish Picnic- 11:30-4:00 pm on Lincoln Ave.

October 19th – Our first Slovak Dinner- 11:30-2:00. Featuring Frank Rossi as our entertainment. Advance ticket sales will begin at the Parish Picnic.

November 14th – ALL You Can Eat Spaghetti Dinner- 3:30-7:30

January 16th - Mexican Dinner- 3:30-7:30

February 20th- March 27th on Fridays - **Fish Fry Dinners**- 3:30-7:30

Watch the bulletin for sign-up opportunities.

FCSLA MEMBERS

BRANCH 81 is sponsoring the Pierogi booth at the parish **picnic on Sept 14**th. It is a matching funds event!

We need volunteers to helps us. If you are able to cook or serve pierogi... please call Becky Coleman at 219-801-6665 or Mary Beth Markovich 219-713-0991



ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7,

these two amazing young men will be canonized by the Catholic Church at St. Peter's in Vatican City. Blessed Carlo Acutis was Born in 1991 and raised in Milan. Blessed Acutis used his tech skills to evangelize and is known for his devotion to the Eucharist and creating an online

exhibition of Eucharistic miracles. Noteworthy as well are His joyful faith and compassion for others before dying of leukemia in 2006 at age 15.

Blessed Giorgio Frassati, born in 1901 into a prominent family in Turin, Italy, was admired for his deep spirituality, love for the poor and enthusiasm for life. A member of the Dominican Third Order, he served the sick through the St. Vincent de Paul Society. He died at age 24 after contracting polio, possibly from one of the people he assisted. His motto "Verso l'Alto" (to the heights) is inscribed on the photo of himself mountain climbing.

The two Italian laymen will be the first saints proclaimed by Pope Leo XIV. We ask that they pray for all of us as we center our lives on Jesus and aim for the heights "heavenly glory".



The Pope's intention for September:

For our relationship with all of creation. Let us pray that, inspired by St. Francis, we might experience our interdependence with all creatures who are loved by God and worthy of love and respect.

PEACE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

SURRENDERING OURSELVES

Lose life and find life. Cross and glory. This is the paschal mystery in a nutshell. Sometimes our response to living the paschal mystery is enthusiastic because things are going well and we don't realize the demands. Then, when the going gets rough, we bog down. The challenge is to let go so God can lead us. We need to surrender ourselves. The paschal mystery isn't just a concept; it is a turning of the heart toward God's love working in us, but not without its demands. Even sharing in Jesus' divine glory means that we must share in his sufferings and death.

Christians must put aside their own prejudices, comfortable circumstances, and favorite ideas in order to do the will of God. This sort of discipline calls Christians to die to themselves in order to follow Christ. Dying to self, has sometimes become confused with self-hate, repression, or co-dependency. However, dying to self is a core value in the Christian Testament. With the grace of God, we can be willing to make the hard sacrifices that love demands. With God's help, we can detach ourselves from – or die – to all that is not Christ so that we can put on Jesus Christ.

Part taken from Living Liturgy by Joyce Ann Zimmerman, C.PP.S.

One Can - Make a Difference

Next weekend **(Sept 13th & 14th)** will be our monthly food collection, in support of the Whiting Food Pantry. All donations (canned & boxed food products, paper products and personal hygiene products) can be placed on the pews at the center of church. Every donation, big or small, helps make a difference for a person or family facing food insecurity.

FORMATION SATURDAYS

For Parish Leaders & Volunteers

Diocese of Gary | 9292 Broadway | Merrillville, IN 46410

Saturday, September 13 | 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Join us for a dynamic morning of leadership training, faith, and fellowship for priests, deacons, parish leaders, and volunteers across the Diocese of Gary. We'll focus on strengthening ministries by helping parishes recruit and place the right volunteers in the right roles.



ENGLISH

Ron Huntley
International Catholic Leadership coach

and author

Javier Castillo





https://dioceseofgary.jotform.com/252246282375156

Or you may register by scanning the QR code



FROM THE PRINCIPALS DESK

Dear St. John the Baptist Community

It is with a heavy heart that I write to you following the tragic and senseless shooting that took place during an all-school Mass at a Catholic church in Minneapolis last week. As a school community, we grieve alongside our brothers and sisters who are enduring unimaginable heartbreak. Please join me in keeping the victims, their families and their entire parish community in your prayers.

Situations like this remind us of how precious our children are and how we are called to protect and nurture them. At St. John, we remain steadfast in our commitment to providing a safe, loving and faith-filled environment for every child entrusted to our care. This remains my promise to you.

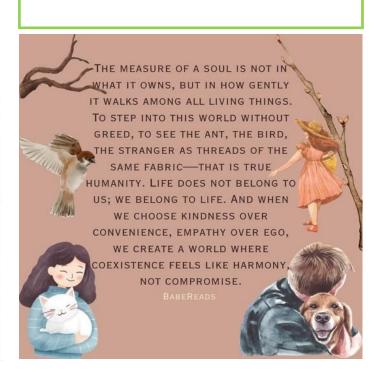
In the days ahead, we will be reviewing all of our safety protocols -- including reunification plans -- to ensure that SJB continues to be a place where our students and families can feel secure, supported and loved.

We place our trust in God knowing that, even in times of sorrow, His peace is with us. Together, may we continue to strengthen our faith, support one another and remain united in prayer.

Thank you for your continued trust and partnership.

Jesus, I trust in You.

With prayers for peace, Mrs. Ondas Principal





ROSARY SOCIETY UPCOMING EVENTS FOR SEPTEMBER

September 15 (Monday) St.John Rosary Society will meet at 11:00 am. Hosted by Group 5, Susan Dybel Promoter. Group members should plan to be at the Senior Center at Pulaski Park by 9:30 am to help with the room set up.

Father Mark Peres, C.PP.S. will install the Officers/Publicity Chairperson:

President—Joyce Wagner
Vice President—Susan Dybel
Recording Secretary—Marion Vargo
Corresponding Secretary—Denyse Buck
Treasurer—Carol Vargo
Publicity Chairperson—Deborah Kolodziej

September 28 (Sunday) St. John Rosary Society will have a joint Rosary with St. Mary's Byzantine Catholic Church (weather permitting) at the Marian Prayer Garden next to St. Mary's Byzantine Catholic Church - 2011 Clark Street in Whiting. It will be at 1:00 pm. Members and their relatives/friends are invited/encouraged to attend. An informal reception will follow. If it rains the rosary will be prayed in Church. Please invite family/friends to attend this special service. All are welcome!

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

All of us are reminded to **come to our weekly Eucharist hungry for Jesus' food/Jesus' very Body and Blood which is life giving**. Here is nourishment which provides the energy and inspiration we need to go about our daily lives, fortified with the life of Jesus the Christ. This is the spiritual food which empowers us to live each day well.

NOTE: Think about the responses you voice at every Mass. Let them be spoken from your heart, allowing your mind to absorb the dialogue that you and the priest share. Your positive attitude will enable you to be a fitting vessel in which our Lord Jesus wishes to reside.

M.S.



CALLING ALL YARD WORKERS, GARDENERS, AND GROUNDSKEEPERS

Churchyard We're in need of a few more people to help us whack Cleanup Day weeds, clean up litter, trim shrubs, and tidy up the grounds around the church, school, and rectory on

Saturday mornings.

There's a core group of 4 to 5 of us who meet **Saturday mornings** from 9:30 to around noon near the garage.

Please stop by if you're able to help. You don't have to commit to working every Saturday, of course, and you don't need to do any kneeling, bending, or heavy lifting. Any time you can spare will be a big help. Coffee, donuts, and ginger chews will be available. ;-) Questions?

Call or text Tom Markovich: (219) 801-6952. Thank you!

ST. THERESE NOVENA

You are invited to gather at St. John The Baptist Catholic Church at 6:30 p.m. for nine consecutive evenings of prayer, beginning Tuesday, September 23rd and ending on Wednesday, October 1, the feast day of St. Therese of Lisieux. Our SJB St. Therese shrine honors the French cloistered nun who is called "The Little Flower" because she referred to herself as a simple wild flower in God's universal garden. Her brief life ended in 1897 due to tuberculosis. Shortly before her death, at just 24 years of age, Therese said that she would spend eternity praying for all of us, and that God's blessings would shower us like a cascade of roses.

As in past years, we continue to ask St. Therese to intercede for our current parish projects and the many needs of our parishioners and Catholic community. Novena prayer booklets will be available as of Sept. 21st at SJB and SA church doors and at the side door of the St. John Rectory. Everyone is encouraged to pray the novena at church and/or at home, asking St. Therese of Lisieux to intercede for all our needs during these challenging times.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Members of the Whiting Knights of Columbus will be conducting a membership drive on the weekend of September 20-21 after all masses. The invitation to join is open to all Catholic men 18 or

older, in good standing with the Catholic Church. Our order was founded on the principles of Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism by Fr. Michael J. McGivney in 18823.

For additional information got to www.kofc.org/

SJB Picnic & School Fundraiser!

family fun, raffles, kids' games, music, bounce houses, fab food

1844 Lincoln Ave. in front of church and school

Sun. 14 Sept. 2025

11:30 AM - 4:00 PM

Questions: 219-659-0023





SEPTEMBER 19, 2025 AVALON MANOR BANQUET CENTER | MERRILLVILLE, IN

EVENT PROGRAM DETAILS

- 6:00 PM OPEN BAR & APPETIZERS
- •7:00 PM DINNER & PROGRAM
- . LIVE AND SILENT AUCTION
- MUSIC AND DANCING UNTIL 10:30 PM

Individual Dinner Cost is \$100 per person Priests and Religious attend free of charge



IS YEAR'S GUARDIAN ANGELS AWARD RECIPIENT JACK SERLETIC

To Register for the BLACK TIE | WHITE COLLAR GALA





Bishop Robert J. McClory Friday

Night Prayer with Our Eucharistic Lord

For more information, please contact JoAnne Rosenow at **219.769.9292** or email **jrosenowedcgary.org**.





So then, none of you can be My disciple who does not give up all his own possessions. Lk 14:33

SUNDAYKIDZ

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

G Н U Q J Z Н Т S R С R O S Q K U W S С Р D Ε O L D Р L U T ı O S Υ С U I R Υ J Т J O T Α U J W S X S Х R C R D Z O L T Z F J W S М S U Α Н F S Е Е U U S М R C K E В K S S E Ν G L М

> Travel Life Disciple Carry Cross Tower Cost King Troops Same

> > © Diocesan

Fill us at daybreak with your kindness, That we may shout for joy and gladness all our days. (Psalm 90:14)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK

A: Mary Jane Adam, Marie Anderson, Frank Angotti, Saul Arambula, Nancy Artim
B: Steve B., Matt Baccer, Susan Bancroft, Wendy Bannerman, Rita Bais, Mary Lou Barcevac, Ron Benko, Donna Bewley, Carol Bibat, Sue Bobalik, Bob Bonchik, Thomas Brooks, Ruth Bzibziak, John Boyle, Marsha Banik, Josie Bolek
C: Ben Cassoday, Jim Campbell.

<u>C:</u> Ben Cassoday, Jim Campbell, Maximiliano Chavez, Fr. Dennis Chriszt, C.PP.S. Abigail Coates, Rebbeca Coates, Marlene Cooney,

Geraldine Cox, Olivia Crinion, Gloria Cruz, Bernadine Cusson, Larry Culp, Jeannine Cusson, Richard Cusson, Sharon Cusson, Sr. Ann Marie Caporale, Brian C. D: Dave M., Jeff Delinck, Mary Ann Delinck, Ernie Demeter, Peggy Demeter, Kevin Dexter, Norb Dudzik, Lenore Duray E Oliver Edlin

F: Jeanine Faulkner, Thomas Federenko, John M. Fedor, Bernice Fesko, Malia Fortunak, Dianna Fritz, Dave Furtak G: Andrea Gaynor, Jacqueline Gonzalez

H: H. Haas, Shery & Jim H.,
Mariah Hayes, Debra Henderson, Kingston M. Hensley, Lorraine Homco, Betty Hunt, Sheila Huizzie, Bruce Hunt, Nellie Hunt, Dennis and Peggy Hyde, Judy Harkenrider
J: Mark J., Sheila J.,
K: Danny K., Linda K, Gerry Kasarda, Diane Kaspar, Alex Kaleta, Ryan Keelan, Mark Kobli, Bernadine Kontrik, Barbara J. Korba, Patti Koopmans, Nancy Koselke, Marcia Krull, Joan Kurczek, Kathy Kutcka

<u>L:</u> Carol Lukasik, Donna Lewandowski

M: Maria M, Mary Madejewski, Howard Marshall, Kristi Matalik, Sebastian, Jerry Matlon, Mendoza, Delaney McGinnis, Jerilyn Miller, Larry & Toni Milkowski, Andy Muellar N: Ann Novotney, Linda N., Chloe N.

O: Bob Oliver, Selma O'Drobnak, Joan Orosz

P: Anna E. Palomo, Pat, Donna Patton, Mike Pena, Eric Pieters Jr., Virginia Piljac, Julie P., Pammela Puhek, Mary Puplava Q: Christina Quiroz, Leonardo Ouiroz

R: Lucretia R., Kathleen Radloff, David Reyes, Delia M. Reyes, Celeste Richardson, Sylvia Richardson, Joel Rivera, Dannielle Roszkowski, Ed Roszkowski, Eileen Ross, Randy & Luke Rycerz, Joyce Rybicki, Cris Rzonca

<u>S:</u> Arthur Salinas Jr., Robert & Phyllis Samano, Armando Sanchez, Linda Secviar, Lori Shaffer, K. Smith, R. Smith, M. Stimac, Judy Strisko, Deanna Stolarz, Renee Suma, Suzanne M. Swentko, Ann Swiatkowski, Morgan Sikora

<u>T:</u> Frank Tarajack, Nancy Teles, Cindy Tokarz, Marilyn Tomko, Geraldine Tumidalsky

V: Pauline V.

W: Walter Watchel, Gina W., Terry W., Tucker W., Sadie Watson, Captoria Weems, Phil Wetnight, Evelyn White E: Margaret Zehner, Janel Zubeck, Ray Zubeck, Theresa Zvonar

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR TROOPS

B: Matt Barbetta, C: Christina Campra, E: F: Victoria Franco, G: Larry Gazafy, Matthew Geffert, John Gervais, Gerardo Gonzalez, James Grunhard Jr., H: Alex Gonzalo Hernandez, Elliot Hlavaty, Matthew Hlavaty, J: Justin Jansky, K: Thomas M. Kaminsky, Keith Kennedy, Jeff Klobucar, Jason

Koscielski, Jeffery Koval, Mark Koval, <u>M:</u> Walter Malenki, Randall McAllister, Mike McCay, Hugh A. McNinch, Philip Mlynarski, Derek Monks, <u>N:</u> David Novotney, <u>O:</u> Zack O'Drobinak, Nicholas Okamura, Justus Oliver, Mark Opachan, <u>P:</u> Kenneth Petkunas, <u>R:</u> Robert Rodriguez, <u>S:</u> Eric Schaufele, Elliott Schultz, Natalie Serna, John Starzyk Jr, Alex Supergan, Jason Sutton, Szewczyk, <u>T:</u> Stephen Taylor, Jeffrey Thormeyer, <u>V:</u> Samuel Valdyke, <u>W:</u> Ray Walsh.

SJB CIRCLE OF PRAYER

If you have an immediate need for prayer support, please consider calling Margaret at 219-659-4138. She will pray with you on the phone and then send your request to the volunteers in our circle of faith who will pray specifically for your intentions.

Please know that we will maintain your privacy with use of first names only. If you would like to join this steadfast community of prayer, please call the SJB rectory to add your name to the circle so that you too can pray for those who are in need of spiritual support.



COME TO THE GROTTO

The warm weather combined with the outdoor beauty of the Immaculate Conception Grotto on White Oak Ave. beckons us to gather and pray the rosary, Wednesdays at 2:00 p.m.

INSPIRATION from
St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta

"Bring prayer back into your family life and you will experience unity-and a joyful love that will bind you

together. Maybe there is suffering in your family, but praying together, sharing together, loving together will help you."

(Do Something Beautiful for God, The Essential Teachings of Mother Teresa)

May the gracious care of the Lord our God be ours.

Prosper the work of our hands for us!

Prosper the work of our hands!

(Psalm 90:17)



